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EASTERN

F.O.
371

1947

PALESTINE

File No. 1293

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Reference:-

FO

371 / 61895

CLOSED
UNTIL

1978

61895

1947

E

E 1293

PALESTINE

Registry Number

FROM

E 1293/1293/31

No.

60

Dated

60/11/46

Received in Registry

6395/46

11 Feb 1947

Resurrection of Religious Houses in Palestine.

C.O. of 90 Savings.
Earlier copy of memo forwarded to
C.O. of 10860/31/46 by the Apostolic Delegation
with advice as to reply for Apostolic
Delegation.

Last Paper.

(10860/10860/31)

(Minutes.)

b.o. *[initials]*

H.B. 22/12

References.

C.O. will remind Jerusalem

H.B. 13/3

(Print.)

b.u. 27/3

(How disposed of.)

61895

(Action completed.)

[initials] 1/4

(Index)

[initials] 19/4/46

Next Paper:

2284

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Reference:-

FO

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COPY

Saving.

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To the Officer Administering the Government of PALESTINE.

Date 31st January, 1947

No. 90 Saving.

E 1223

Requisitioning of certain pontifical and other religious properties.

I enclose a copy of memorandum forwarded to the Foreign Office by the Apostolic Delegation.

2. Grateful for your advice as to the reply to be returned to the Apostolic Delegation.

SECR.

76399/46

Colonial Office.

8/2/47

(E 10860/10860/31)

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Reference:-
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371 / 61895

1947

E

E 2284

4

PALESTINE

17 Mar

Registry Number

E 2284/1293/31

FROM

Drapford Smith.

No.

Colonial Office

Dated

to Mr. Barlett.

Received in Registry

13. Mar 1947
17. Mar 1947

Restoration of Religious Houses in Palestine.
Refr. of letter 10860/10860/21/41 of Dec 11.
H/12 has made enquiries and discovered a
reply from H/C dated 26 Feb. (enclosed copy).
i.e. Palestine to 22th evening of Feb 26.

Last Paper.

1293

(Minutes.)

References.

Draft attached. I am not sure if
this is the correct form in addressing the
Apostolic Delegation.

(Print.)

Western Dept ✓

Yes of 26/11

H. Bealey 21/3

W. M. 23/3

(How disposed of.)

off apostolic Delegation
from Sir R. Howe

Draft initialed by Sir R. Howe

✓ Mar 31

H.B. 26/3

(Action completed.)

RCM 1/4

(Index.)

9/19/48

Next Paper.

E 6971

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Downing Street,
S.W.1.

E. Baxter
5

13th March, 1947.
E. 2204

CONFIDENTIAL

Dea Baxter

17 MAR

Beeley spoke to me on the telephone today about the question of the requisitioning of certain pontifical and other religious property, raised in your letter E.10860/10860/31 of the 11th November. I have made enquiries and discovered a reply from the High Commissioner dated the 26th February, of which I now enclose a copy. I hope it will provide you with material for an adequate reply to the Apostolic Delegate.

I am sorry that we have not let you have this earlier.

*Yours sincerely
Richard Smith*

C.W. BAXTER, ESQ., C.M.G.

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7. Clear
SAVING.

Day W/100/41 6

From the High Commissioner for Trans-Jordan.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date...26.2.47.....

No.....224....Saving.

Your No.90 Saving of 31st January, 1947.

Requisitioning of certain pontifical and other religious properties.

The ground and first-floors of the Pontifical Biblical Institute are still in occupation of the Department of Food Control. Half of the second-floor is occupied by the Town Planning Department, while the Director of the Institute retains the use of the other half.

2. In view of the continued world food-shortage which necessitates the maintenance of controls and in view also of recent security moves in Jerusalem with the consequential concentration of Government Offices, I regret that at present I am unable to consider relinquishing this property.

3. The Apostolic Delegate may however be informed that the possibility of vacating properties of the Holy See for return to their original use is being kept under constant review.

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Draft.
The Apostolic
Delegate,
54, Park Side
London, S.W. 19

(From Sir R. Howe)

Western Dept

f. 24.000

RL
20/3

OUT FILE

31 ~~3~~ March, 1947.

Dear Archbishop,

You left with me on the 1st November,
1946, a memorandum concerning the
requisitioning by the Government of
Palestine of ~~the~~ ^{certain} Pontifical ~~Biblical~~ ^{and other}
~~Institute.~~ ^{religious properties.}

I am sorry not to have been able
to reply before. I have ascertained
from the Colonial Office that the first
floor of ~~this building~~ ^{The Biblical Institute in Jerusalem} is still occupied
by the Department of Food Control, and
half of the second floor by the Town
Planning Department, but that the
Director of the Institute retains the
remainder of the second floor.

As a result of recent events in
Palestine, the Administration are faced
with exceptional difficulties in find-
ing accommodation for their essential
requirements. They regret that they
are therefore unable to terminate their
occupation of this ~~controversial~~ property at
the/

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the present moment. They are however
keeping under constant review the
possibility of vacating ^{properties of the Holy See} ~~the premises~~ of
~~the Biblical Institute~~ for return to their
original use.

R.V.M.
2573

Yours Sincerely

(Sd.) R. G. HOWE.

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OUT FILE

31st March, 1947. 9

(E. 2284/1293/31).

Dear Archbishop,

You left with me on the 1st November, 1946, a memorandum concerning the requisitioning by the Government of Palestine of certain Pontifical and other religious properties.

I am sorry not have been able to reply before. I have ascertained from the Colonial Office that the first floor of the Biblical Institute in Jerusalem is still occupied by the Department of Food Control, and half of the second floor by the Town Planning Department, but that the Director of the Institute retains the remainder of the second floor.

As a result of recent events in Palestine, the Administration are faced with exceptional difficulties in finding accommodation for their essential requirements. They regret that they are therefore unable to terminate their occupation of this property at the present moment. They are however keeping under constant review the possibility of vacating properties of the Holy See for return to their original use.

Yours Sincerely

(Jgd.) (R. S. Howe).

The Apostolic Delegate,
54, Park Side,
U.S.S.R.

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1947

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PALESTINE

E 6971

1 AUG 1947

10

Registry Number E 6971/1293/31.
 FROM Archbishop Godfrey
 Apostolic Delegate,
 No 40 St. Anne's
 Dated 30 June.
 Received in Registry 1 Aug.

Restoration of Religious houses in Palestine.

Ref FO letter E 2284/1293/31 of 30/3. Gives list of buildings occupied by Government & discusses need for their return.

Last Paper.

E 2284

(Minutes.)

Two drafts.

References.

H.B. reply 3/8

WM 5/8

(Print.)

In P.P. Apartment sent Aug 13 & H. Porter

(How disposed of.)

Wpt. Trafford Smith
 P.O.
 from in Boston
 (copy) Aug 11
 Wpt. Apartment Delegate
 from in Boston
 Aug 11

b.u. 25/9

bu. out. 15 JB out. 1

Ce. reminded
 Bu. Nov. 15 JB out 15

H.B. 19/8

(Action completed.)

J.E.M. 2/8

(Index.)

J.E.M. 2/8

Next Paper.

777/777/31 '48

B.U. 15/12

L.O. again reminded

b.u. 15/1

J. 27/11

H.B. 27

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Forwarded from
Sir R. Howe at Khartoum
in letter dated July 22
received July 29

54, PARKSIDE,
LONDON, S. W. 19.

30th June, 1947.

Our Ref: 6803/E
Your ref: (E.2284, 1293/31)

100/29/7

E 6871

1 AUG 1947

Dear Mr. Howe,

You will remember that in October of last year I left with you a *pro Memoria* regarding religious houses in Palestine, and you kindly replied on March 31st to the effect that the Administration in Palestine were keeping under constant review the possibility of vacating properties of the Holy See for return to their original use.

Recently a Franciscan priest, by name the Rev. Father Hoade, who is chaplain to the Palestine Police called here and asked me with much urgency to take the matter up again. He left with me a list of the principal Catholic buildings occupied by the Government at the moment. Those marked indicate the ones which he considers should be returned as soon as possible:-

HAIFA *Italian Hospital (still in use as Military Hospital)
Old Italian Hospital
*German Hospital (occupied by the police)
3 Carmelite Buildings

NAZARETH *Franciscan Monastery (occupied by Poles. The Community responsible for the Sanctuaries and the parish have only a few rooms).
Casa Nova Hospice
*Convent of the Franciscan Sisters (occupied by Poles)
Salesian Monastery (occupied by Poles)
Austrian Hospice (occupied by Army)
Tabgha Hospice (occupied by Government).

JERUSALEM *Tantur, property of the Knights of Malta (occupied by German Protestant school, while it should be in use as the Novitiate for the Salesian Fathers.) ——— 2000 2000 2000 2000 1945
Austrian Hospice.
Italian Hospital (occupied by the R.A.F.)
St. Paul's Hospice (occupied by the R.A.F.)
*Convent and School of Franciscan Sisters, (used as Military Court)
Carmelite Monastery (occupied by police)
Biblical Institute (Government Offices)

/Father Hoade's

R.G. Howe Esq.,
Foreign Office, S.W. 1.

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1957
SENT TO DEPT.
18

12

Father Hoade's contention is that this list shows that the Catholic community has had to make more sacrifices of buildings than all the others together, and that during the war the Catholic body did everything possible to help, and, at great inconvenience, put every building available at the disposal of the Government. He states that despite the local troubles the same necessity does not now exist.

Palestine is very badly in need of hospitals, he tells me, and something should be done quickly to try to reopen the three hospitals mentioned; the Sisters and Staff of these hospitals have had to take lodging in private houses, and are living in very straitened circumstances, and in places where conditions are not proper for persons who are dedicated to the religious life.

Father Hoade also raised the question of alternative accommodation for the Poles, now occupying the buildings in Nazareth, and expressed the opinion that they could, without much difficulty, be housed elsewhere.

He added that the rents paid for the buildings were extremely low, and concluded by saying that the Catholic Authorities in Palestine were strongly convinced that their work was greatly hindered by these requisitions.

As I have been urged by my colleague, Bishop Hughes, who is acting Apostolic Delegate in Cairo, to bring this matter to the kind consideration of His Majesty's Government, I would be most grateful if you could give this urgent matter your careful and sympathetic consideration.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely

W. Godfrey
 Archbishop of Cius
 Apostolic Delegate

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Draft. letter to
Mr. Trafford Smith,
Co.
(from Mr. Barclay)
CW

H.B. 3/8

13
Dear Trafford Smith,^{11 Mr. Amf}
May I refer you to your
letter of the 13th March, enclosing
a copy of Jerusalem Savings Co. no
224, containing information for
which we had been asked by the
Apostolic Delegate on the subject of
requisitioned religious properties in
Palestine.

We have now received a further
letter (forwarded to Sir Robert
Hour ^{from} Khartoum) from the
Apostolic Delegate, and I enclose
~~a copy~~ two copies. I should be
grateful if you would send one
to Palestine with a request for
advice

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14
advice on the reply we should
send to the Apostolic Delegate.

WMB/sjs

(Sgd.) C. W. Baxter.

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CUT FILE

15

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

11th August, 1947.

(F. 6971/1293/31)

Dear Trafford Smith,

May I refer you to your letter of the 13th March, enclosing a copy of Jerusalemavingram No. 224, containing information for which we had been asked by the Apostolic Delegate on the subject of requisitioned religious properties in Palestine.

We have now received a further letter (delayed through being forwarded to Sir Robert Howe in Khartoum) from the Apostolic Delegate, and I enclose two copies. I should be grateful if you would send one to Palestine with a request for advice on the reply we should send to the Apostolic Delegate.

(Sgd.) (C. V. Baxter)

Trafford Smith, Esq.,
Colonial Office.

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No. E6971/1293/31

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Draft. letter to
The Apostolic
Delegates
(from Mr. Beaton)

H.B. 3/8

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3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/16 (51) F.&S.

OUT FILE 8
16

Dear Archbishop,

You will remember that you wrote to Sir Robert Howe on the 30th June, on the subject of certain Catholic buildings in Palestine which are at present occupied by the Government.

Unfortunately Sir Robert had left the office ~~before~~ when your letter arrived, with the result that it was sent after him to Khartoum and has only now reached us on its return. We are causing fresh enquiries to be made ~~into the~~ on the basis of your letter, and
/will

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inform you of their outcome in
due course.

*Wm
5/8*

(Sgd.) C.W. Baxter.

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OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE. S.W.1.

18

11th August, 1947.

(F 6971/1293/31)

Dear Archbishop,

You will remember that you wrote to Sir Robert Howe on the 30th June, on the subject of certain Catholic buildings in Palestine which are at present occupied by the Government.

Unfortunately Sir Robert had left the office when your letter arrived, with the result that it was sent after him to Khartoum and has only now reached us on its return. We are causing fresh enquiries to be made on the basis of your letter, and will inform you of their outcome in due course.

Yours faithfully

(Sgd.) (C. W. Baxter)

The Most Reverend
Archbishop William Godfrey,
54, Parkside,
S.W.19.

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APOSTOLIC DELEGATION ~~INDEPENDENT~~

Keep with pp
Aug 15/8

54, PARKSIDE,
LONDON, S. W. 19.

19
END

Your ref: 13th August, 1947.
(E 6971/1293/31)

6971 1293 21

Dear Mr. Baxter,

In the absence of the Apostolic Delegate I write to thank you for your kind letter to him of August 11th.

The Archbishop will be most grateful for the enquiries you are having made on the subject of certain Catholic buildings in Palestine.

Yours sincerely,

Wendel Cashman

Rev. Secretary
Apostolic Delegation

C.W. Baxter Esq., C.M.G., M.C.,
The Foreign Office,
S.W. 1.

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